



Devoted to the interests of the various Fire Departments and Military Organizations throughout the State.

CHARLES M. CHASE, Proprietor.

OUR TASK—TO ENLIGHTEN.

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The Ghost Haunted.

WRITTEN FOR THE FIREMAN'S JOURNAL.

It was a dismal, dreary hour when, feeling like a criminal, I stole from my house and joined my companions. It had been a stormy night, but the wind had gone down and the rain had ceased; yet a mass of black clouds still enveloped the heavens like a pall, obscuring moon and stars, and clothing everything in an impenetrable gloom. In silence and in darkness we groped our way through the streets, and along the winding road, till about midnight trembling with dread we arrived at the porch of the chateau. Noisily we pushed open the great hall door, and not daring to move another step, stood cowering in the entrance. As we looked within the dreary place, it was dark and silent as the tomb. Not a ray of light illumined it, not a sound was heard save that of the old house clock which I had wound up the day before; the vibrations of whose pendulum struck with startling distinctness upon the solemn stillness. No one dared to speak, but huddling close together and nervously grasping each other's hands, we awaited the awful apparition. A few seconds that seemed to us ages, had passed away, when the wheels of the old time piece revolved with a noise, which to our excited senses seemed that of a mass of machinery, and its bell struck one. Ere its lonely reverberations had died away amid the lofty arches and many empty rooms of that proud dwelling, the walls seemed to sway to and fro, a hundred doors suddenly burst open, and the whole place was filled with a flood of unearthly light of lurid brightness. Blue lambent flames appeared as if twining about the pillars, or leaping amid the arches that supported the ceiling; fringing the flutings of the doors and windows, and licking with fiery tongues, the sculptured ornaments of the cornices and walls. The grand staircase at the upper end of the hall, seemed a mass of fire, amid which horror struck, we saw a figure of a proud and lofty bearing, slowly descending. Its long, white garments floated untroubled, unharmed, upon the flames. Its face was that of a marble statue, but of more transparent whiteness, and its large, lustrous eyes shone like two balls of fire; while from a ghastly, gaping wound in its neck, there issued great gouts of blood, which ere they touched the floor changed to flakes of fire. As it glided toward an opposite door, our undaunted person stepped forward, and in a voice trembling with terror, but clear, loud, and distinct, said: "In the name of God I charge thee stand, and speak!" Instantly the lurid light and the lambent flames disappeared, and amid the sudden darkness, her garments shining with a silvery lustre, the figure was seen standing in a distant recess; where, casting upon us a malignant look, she raised a shadowy arm and pointed to the wall above her head, and there in words of fire, we read: "Justice sleeps and her husband lives." Slowly the phantom vanished. The flaming wheels glowed and glowed and glowed, until they too slowly disappeared and we were left in darkness and silence more terrible than ever. How we reached our homes I know not, but well do I remember how in awe hushed whispers we talked of it next day.

There could be no doubt now about the murderer. Warrants were issued and placed in the hands of officers to arrest him wherever found. It happened that about this time a ship arrived from Europe, and among its passengers was Mr. Mordant, Dick Granham, our constable, saw him a few days afterwards, and immediately arrested him. Dick said that the wretched man turned pale as a sheet, and almost fainted away when he clapped his hand upon his shoulder, and told him he was his prisoner; but that he afterwards became so reconciled to his fate and submitted so cheerfully to it, that he was afterwards a long trial, in the course of which a great deal more evidence appeared than could have been expected, he was convicted of the murder of his wife, and sentenced to be hung.

But to return to Emily. She woke from the sleep into which the poison had thrown her in a high fever. For many weeks she lay ill, but it was the joy of my life to nurse her; careful however, when doing so, never to revert to the cause of her illness, lest the fearful remembrance should bring on a recurrence of her convulsions. When I thought she had sufficiently recovered to bear the relation, I told her all that happened, and of the sad strain which her father was under. Her surprise and grief were beyond imagination. She described, yet, during the long, harassing trial, I never could prevail upon her to go with me into the court; fearing, perhaps, to uncover him by her presence, when he needed all the courage he could command. But,

whenever I returned from it, she met me with eager inquiries about what had been done and whether there were any hopes of his acquittal. During the intervals of the trial however, as well as when it was over, and the miserable man was confined in his cell awaiting the day of his execution, she was over by his side nursing, comforting, praying for, and cheering him, like a good, tender-hearted, devoted daughter as she was.

He evaded the sentence of the court however by committing suicide. Some people said that Emily furnished the means. I do not believe she did, but I know she secretly rejoiced that they had been obtained. The poor girl seemed fairly heart broken, though she never let her father see how bitterly she grieved. I often wondered as I looked upon her pale, sorrow-stricken face how she managed to live through so much. But we sometimes see in life a gentle, delicate creature bearing up under trouble and affliction that would kill many a stouter one. 'Tis the fable of the oak and reed illustrated.

Her father before he died, wrote a confession which was published. I think I have it yet. So saying, Martha rose, and going to her drawers, fumbled with a trembling hand among a quantity of papers, and brought me the following. It was cut from the village newspaper, and had that color and small print of old newspapers, which gives them in my mind, an odor of sanctity, and excites an involuntary veneration. I read:

THE CONFESSION OF RICHARD MORDANT.

The sentence of the court was just, and I feel confirmed by the Eternal Judge of all mankind, before whose awful judgment seat I am about to appear. But I have borne a hell in my own bosom too long to fear that of the future. I leave no relation but an angelic daughter whom I tenderly love, and who is the only thing I regret in leaving this world. My memory will be universally and deservedly execrated. But strange as it may appear, in making this confession I am actuated by a vain hope, that a charitable public will discover in the motives which led to my crimes, much to extenuate their enormity. It matters not where I was born. My mother died when I was but two years old, leaving me to the care of a rich and indulgent father, who, occupied with his own concerns, permitted me to pursue the bent of my own inclinations. I grew up in the exercise of the wildest and most ungovernable passions, until I reached the age of eighteen, when my remaining parent dying, I came into the possession of a very handsome fortune. I determined to travel, and having a curiosity to see South America, first directed my course thither. On my way, I visited Havana and the various ports of the West Indies, and at length arrived at George Town, the capital of English Guiana. There I became acquainted with a Spaniard named "Jose Mandollo," who induced me to join him on some expeditions to the Congo Coast to procure negroes, which he assured me we would have no difficulty in disposing of at Rio, and the various ports of the Spanish Main. There was just enough danger and excitement in this nefarious trade to suit my adventurous disposition, and I gladly engaged in it. Jose, with the exception of such time as he had passed in making private excursions to the neighboring islands, had followed it all his life, and his personal appearance was as repulsive as his occupations. Nevertheless I associated myself with him, and profited so much by his experience that in a few years I became quite wealthy, and sold out the vessel and partnership property to him.

At this time the Governor's Court was very brilliant, and graced by the best society, not only of that, but the neighboring colonies. Money there, as it does everywhere, gave me admittance to the most fashionable circles. I kept a fine house, a sumptuous table, a great many servants, as dashing an equipage as could be obtained in that country, and gave a great many parties which notwithstanding my late infamous employment, were as well attended as those of the court.

Among those with whom I became acquainted at the Governor's Palace, was an English family consisting of a brave old officer, his nephew, and a daughter, so transcendently beautiful, as to be the theme of every tongue. Clara Borton appeared to me the embodiment of everything that is lovely in woman. My heart will not permit me to describe her now. Suffice it to say that the sight of her inspired me with the liveliest admiration and the wildest, maddest, most passionate love. I wooed and won her. Her father approved my suit and we were married, with the blessing of the good Governor, who, for two weeks in honor of the occasion, made his court the merriest and gayest in Christendom. In the midst of this festivity my bride's father was called away, to take command of a regiment that had been levied to repel the incursions of the Indians on the frontier, and a short time afterwards our mutual joys were saddened by the news of his death. It was some consolation to me to know that he died like a brave soldier, fighting at the head of his column. But Clara threw her white arms about my neck, and said her comfort was in me. Alas! as I look back through the vista of years, those few happy days shine out amid the crimes and sorrows of my life, like rainbow hues upon the storm cloud.

I began now to think of returning home. The Governor tried to prevail upon me to remain in the colony, but the desire to revisit my native land was superior to his entreaties. It was delightful to sit beneath the lofty cone trees, where the birds sang and the air came laden with the richest tropical perfumes, and with Clara and Harry by my side, talk of the distant land we hoped to soon see. The descriptions which I fondly gave of the place that seemed to me the happiest and pleasantest on earth, so excited my devoted bride, that

she became as eager as I to set off at once. Harry was to accompany us. He already seemed a part of my family, and I loved him as if he had been really one of my own blood. He was scarce eighteen years of age, and of an almost girlish beauty. Imagine a light and graceful figure, blushing the many proportions of our own sex with that softness of outline peculiar to the other. A complexion clear, and dazzling, large, blue eyes in whose expression there was a depth and earnestness impossible to fathom. Cheeks round and dimpled, a mouth perfectly formed and perpetually wreathed with the most bewitching smiles; fair, sunny hair hanging in luxuriant ringlets about his neck, and you may have some idea of Harry Ashton. In fact he was just such a youth as the old masters would have loved to paint as Eudymion. Mary, the Governor's daughter, had painted his image upon her heart, and Harry loved her with all his soul. Would to God I had known their passion then, we might all now be happy. Loveable as he was in person, he was not less so in disposition. Gentle and affectionate, he clung to me as a protegee, and I felt for him the mingled affection of a father and a brother. But, alas! I believe that jealousy would make the sight of angelic beauty, did he come between one's passion and its object. While making my preparations for departure, I could not always be with Clara, and I soon perceived that a tender intimacy existed between her and Harry. Whenever I returned to them after an absence, I found them together, and at my approach he went away, to wander or meditate by himself, while she seemed ill at ease. Young and innocent as the girl appeared I was jealous of him, and suspected that he was the object of a prior attachment, and that Clara had married through motives of interest, or the persuasion of her father. The suspicion was misory, but the more I watched them, the more I became convinced of its truth, and the conviction maddened me. I determined that Harry should not accompany us, and in order to break off his intercourse with my wife I compelled her to live on board the ship which then lay at anchor in the harbor.

One afternoon, having been detained until quite late on shore, upon returning to the vessel, and hurrying to the cabin, I found my precaution had been vain. They were together, and oh! how right sight, he was upon his knees before her. My sudden entrance filled them with confusion. Clara giving a startled scream hid her face in her hands. He, rising to his feet, stammered forth a kind of explanation which I was too much enraged to hear. With a bitter curse I left them. He followed me on deck, and stood before me pale and trembling, unable to utter a word. I received him with a volley of imprecations; accused him of being a treacherous friend, of debauching my wife, and destroying my happiness. Ere I ceased to speak, he had become perfectly calm, and with a contemptuous look, said I was a jealous fool, and he would talk to me when I was in a wiser mood. The coolness and insolence of one ordinarily so timid and gentle, confounded me, and infuriated as I was with jealousy, they seemed to confirm my worst suspicions. I believed he gloried in my shame, and mocked me with it. Totally beside myself with rage, I seized a handkerchief and struck him. He was standing near the taffrail, and the blow sent him headlong into the water. The black waves closed above him, and his body never rose again. But his spirit did. For five and twenty years I have seen that boyish face pale and shadowy, but beautiful as life, constantly before me. It has been between me and happiness here, it will appear between me and mercy hereafter. As I stood gazing into the deep, horror struck and remorseful, I felt a heavy hand upon my shoulder. I started, as if I had been that of the hangman. It was Mandollo's. A single glance at his ruffian face told me that he knew all, had seen all, and I was in his power. Having made an extremely fortunate voyage, he had a short time previously sold his ship, and determined to avail himself of the opportunity which my return afforded, to visit the United States; he had come on board but a few hours before me, and was a solitary, silent witness of the quarrel and its fatal termination. He made no remark, but I could not mistake the meaning of his look; and knew too well the danger that menaced me while my secret was in the keeping of such a man.

When I returned to the cabin Clara was weeping bitterly. She did not look up or speak, but seemed to shrink from me with loathing. Her tears though they maddened me, added to my remorse, and faithless as I believed her, I would have given worlds could I have restored Harry lover and friend, but from that hour she never spoke of it, or mentioned his name. Yet I could see that in her heart distrust and dread had taken the place of a wife's confidence and affection.

The next day we sailed out of the harbor, and were soon upon the broad bosom of the ocean. There where the moon shone upon the waters, a silver chain and the pale stars glimmered dimly in the sky. I felt alone with an "offended" God and tried to pray, but the spirit of the murdered boy rose up between me and Heaven and seemed to intercept my prayers. I felt that I was an outcast from all human sympathy, the murderer of my dear friend and an object of loathing to my best beloved. Henceforth no peace nor joy was mine. I often longed for death to relieve me from the hell of my thoughts and would have sought it with my own hand but had not courage to strike the blow, and ever as if in mockery of my anguish, the wildness of my crime, followed me like my shadow. The day I would I tell that his watchful eyes were upon me, and whenever I met my malignant wife I quailed before it, for I knew that my fate was in his hands. His hateful presence and surveillance at length became insupportable, and I fled to my country residence. There I built a chateau and beautified it with every embellishment, her fancy could suggest or money procure. There I passed one merry summer in whose festivities my heart was beguiled of its gloom; and there, the succeeding year—I cannot remember it without a pang—my gentle uncomplaining long suffering wife died. Her last words were ineffaceably written on my memory and often in the bitterness of my grief I recalled them. Would to God they had been spoken sooner I should not now be here. Happiness would yet be mine. Not till the death film had gathered in her eyes, and her feeble form shuddered in its last mortal agony did she give me the explanation which might have made us both happy for ever. "Oh husband! I have been a foolish wicked woman and a sad wife, I knew your crime, I saw your self reproach your agony of remorse. I pitied but instead of comforting and cheering, I slurred and loathed you. A false shame and foolish pride prevented me from making that explanation to which would have removed your suspicions restored our happiness; and we have lived on distrustful of each other wretched and miserable. Harry was innocent. Never in his life did he address to me one word which a sister or a virtuous wife might not have listened to. He was really in love with the Governor's daughter Mary and often sought my side to make me the confidante of his feelings. He came on board the ship to inform me that she returned his love and to beseech me to intercede for him with her father. I was striving to convince him of the hopelessness of his passion when you burst in upon us. In the fever of his entreaties he had thrown himself upon my knees before me, as you discovered him. The consciousness of the construction which you must place upon our situation filled us with such confusion that neither would utter a word. Then I sat alone in the cabin and heard your angry accusation. The blow, the plunge in the dark water, and know that my beautiful girl's life was forfeit. My sin was lost forever. Can you wonder that I shrunk from his murderer. I was indignant too at your suspecting me so unreasonably. Then I hated and detested you. But as with time the poignancy of my grief and resentment wore off and I saw you remorseful and dejected often gazing with a terrified look at vacancy or talking in dreams of horrible specters which had no existence except in your tormented mind, I began to pity you; then your constant kindness won my forgiveness and oh! Richard! now as that life which for your sake, I vainly wish prolonged is fleeting fast away, I know how fondly though all and above all I have loved you. How much I love you now."

Scarcely had she ceased to speak ere I clasped her in my arms and imprinted on her cold lips and brow a thousand kisses. Too late! too late! came confidence and love. She was unconscious of my caresses; I thought her dead, and unable to bear the sight, ran frantic from the chamber. For hours bare headed in the night air as darkness gathered around me I wandered like a madman about the lawn, lamenting her loss and praying God to strike me dead, and afflict me no more. Days, weeks and months I remained in a stupor of grief, refusing all society, refusing all comfort. Hurrying from the chateau as a place which only seemed to renew my sorrow, I shut myself up in my town house where, denying all visitors I delighted in recalling every detail of remembrance of my lost Clara. Had it not been for Emily I must have lost my reason. She poor girl had been my sole companion and after vainly trying every art to divert my melancholy finally induced me to return to society. At a grand ball given in honor of my reappearance in the gay world, I met Kate Bayard, who by her lively wit and charming manners had contributed no small amount to my enjoyment of the merry season at the chateau. She appeared even more beautiful than ever, was in fact the reigning toast of the city. The pleasing impression which she had already made upon my heart, soon ripened into love and I sought her hand. My suit was successful. But oh! what a contrast did she present to my angelic Clara. The dashing belle once the admired of all observers, proved a mere piece of outside show, a cold heartless wicked woman. We had been married scarce a month, ere she gave me a dozen instances of her faithlessness; in truth I believe she considered a husband only useful as a shield to her amours. So shameless did her conduct at length become, that she was the town talk and the most wretched of men. I could have borne her misconduct towards myself as just punishment for my sudden forgetfulness of my sainted wife, had it not been made insupportable by her treatment of Emily. She seemed to consider her a spy upon her actions, and visited upon the poor girl every annoyance and vexation which her malice could suggest until she fairly drove her from the house, and from that time I never saw or heard of my poor daughter until she suddenly made her appearance in my condemned cell where she has ever since been to me a ministering angel.

Among my wife's many lovers was one whom she eyed with particular regard. Eugene St. Armand, of French descent, like herself, rich, witty, accomplished and possessed of great personal beauty, was every way calculated to win favors of women. His intercourse with her became so intimate that it was reduced to the necessity of breaking it off or seeking a divorce. I chose the former and in the midst of one of the gayest seasons of the metropolis I brought her up to my chateau. There I guarded her like a prisoner, intercepting all letters and permitting no one to see her except in my presence. But all my precautions were vain. I soon discovered that Eugene was in the village and had every reason to believe that he found means to visit her. Determined to confirm my suspicions, I

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The first rays of the morning sun shone upon a calm sea. They brought hope and cheerfulness to the despairing mariners but not a single one comforted the gloom of my heart. A breeze soon sprang up and we sped on our voyage. I cannot describe what I suffered while alone upon the ocean, for I was alone, though there were many human creatures around me. The bright blue waters sparkling in the sun beams, seemed to me red with blood and filled with horrible shapes. The sky ever wore a menacing frown, I often watched the dark clouds floating over it, and dreaded lest, yet, longed that a thunder bolt would suddenly burst from them and strike me dead. I had a hell within and saw no hope of Heaven without, while through the living-day and in my sleepless nights the spectres were ever present to my sight. Did I look for consolation to my wife, the silent reproach depicted upon her sad face gave a fresh sting to my tortures and was harder to bear than a tirade of invectives or a host of frowning phantoms.

At length we reached New York and my long dreary voyage was at an end. I led my wife ashore, she followed passive with averted eyes, but the shudder which thrilled her frame as her hand touched mine, was the bitterest of reproaches. I took a house in the most fashionable quarter and furnished it with all the splendor and luxury that money could buy. But alas, money could not buy happiness or retrieve lost affections. Moreover I was still tormented by doubts of my wife's faithfulness, while I could not too plainly perceive that she felt for me a kind of horror. I would have separated from her but a lurking fondness that rose superior to my suspicions, and a fear of her retaliation withheld me; besides the law could not have placed us further asunder than we really were.

A few months after our arrival she gave birth to my daughter Emily. Perhaps the new and delightful emotions which the care of her babe awakened in her heart, inspired it with something more of tenderness towards myself or the child, being a common object of affection may have been a bond of reunion after our long estrangement; for from that time her aversion seemed in a measure to diminish and my doubts of her to give way. But that warmth of feeling and devoted love which made the joy of our honeymoon never returned. Sufficient coldness always remained to preclude any enjoyment in the domestic circle. I consequently sought it elsewhere. With that object as well as to divert my thoughts from the harrowing remembrance of my crimes, I again engaged in trade. My operations were chiefly confined to South America with whose markets I was perfectly familiar, where every venture was crowned with such great and unvarying success, that I sometimes thought that heaven was thus proving to me how vain were worldly wealth, and worldly blessings to a heart so ill at ease as mine. I had a palace for a home splendid equipage horses, plate a lovely wife and angel child; everything but love and happiness. I gave sumptuous dinners and brilliant parties, where the rich and talented and gay gathered to admire and envy my magnificence and wonder at the gloomy unhappy man who so lavishly entertained them. They saw not the remorseful conscience which made worldly pomp a hideous mockery; they knew nothing of the silent chamber peopled with horrors, where he lay wakeful through the long night tortured by gibbering phantoms.

Notwithstanding the loathing with which my wife regarded me, she was never lacking in duty or attention. She presided over my household with grace and dignity, reared my child carefully, and judiciously, ever showed the most considerate regard for my wants, and won by her lady like manners and cultivated mind, the admiration and respect of all my guests. But the consciousness of her many virtues only made me regret the more bitter, my remorse more severe. And yet I spared no trouble or expense to please her. One smile from her would have repaid the sacrifice of a fortune, the toll of a lifetime. I selected the spot she chose

for my country residence. There I built a chateau and beautified it with every embellishment, her fancy could suggest or money procure. There I passed one merry summer in whose festivities my heart was beguiled of its gloom; and there, the succeeding year—I cannot remember it without a pang—my gentle uncomplaining long suffering wife died. Her last words were ineffaceably written on my memory and often in the bitterness of my grief I recalled them. Would to God they had been spoken sooner I should not now be here. Happiness would yet be mine. Not till the death film had gathered in her eyes, and her feeble form shuddered in its last mortal agony did she give me the explanation which might have made us both happy for ever. "Oh husband! I have been a foolish wicked woman and a sad wife, I knew your crime, I saw your self reproach your agony of remorse. I pitied but instead of comforting and cheering, I slurred and loathed you. A false shame and foolish pride prevented me from making that explanation to which would have removed your suspicions restored our happiness; and we have lived on distrustful of each other wretched and miserable. Harry was innocent. Never in his life did he address to me one word which a sister or a virtuous wife might not have listened to. He was really in love with the Governor's daughter Mary and often sought my side to make me the confidante of his feelings. He came on board the ship to inform me that she returned his love and to beseech me to intercede for him with her father. I was striving to convince him of the hopelessness of his passion when you burst in upon us. In the fever of his entreaties he had thrown himself upon my knees before me, as you discovered him. The consciousness of the construction which you must place upon our situation filled us with such confusion that neither would utter a word. Then I sat alone in the cabin and heard your angry accusation. The blow, the plunge in the dark water, and know that my beautiful girl's life was forfeit. My sin was lost forever. Can you wonder that I shrunk from his murderer. I was indignant too at your suspecting me so unreasonably. Then I hated and detested you. But as with time the poignancy of my grief and resentment wore off and I saw you remorseful and dejected often gazing with a terrified look at vacancy or talking in dreams of horrible specters which had no existence except in your tormented mind, I began to pity you; then your constant kindness won my forgiveness and oh! Richard! now as that life which for your sake, I vainly wish prolonged is fleeting fast away, I know how fondly though all and above all I have loved you. How much I love you now."

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for my country residence. There I built a chateau and beautified it with every embellishment, her fancy could suggest or money procure. There I passed one merry summer in whose festivities my heart was beguiled of its gloom; and there, the succeeding year—I cannot remember it without a pang—my gentle uncomplaining long suffering wife died. Her last words were ineffaceably written on my memory and often in the bitterness of my grief I recalled them. Would to God they had been spoken sooner I should not now be here. Happiness would yet be mine. Not till the death film had gathered in her eyes, and her feeble form shuddered in its last mortal agony did she give me the explanation which might have made us both happy for ever. "Oh husband! I have been a foolish wicked woman and a sad wife, I knew your crime, I saw your self reproach your agony of remorse. I pitied but instead of comforting and cheering, I slurred and loathed you. A false shame and foolish pride prevented me from making that explanation to which would have removed your suspicions restored our happiness; and we have lived on distrustful of each other wretched and miserable. Harry was innocent. Never in his life did he address to me one word which a sister or a virtuous wife might not have listened to. He was really in love with the Governor's daughter Mary and often sought my side to make me the confidante of his feelings. He came on board the ship to inform me that she returned his love and to beseech me to intercede for him with her father. I was striving to convince him of the hopelessness of his passion when you burst in upon us. In the fever of his entreaties he had thrown himself upon my knees before me, as you discovered him. The consciousness of the construction which you must place upon our situation filled us with such confusion that neither would utter a word. Then I sat alone in the cabin and heard your angry accusation. The blow, the plunge in the dark water, and know that my beautiful girl's life was forfeit. My sin was lost forever. Can you wonder that I shrunk from his murderer. I was indignant too at your suspecting me so unreasonably. Then I hated and detested you. But as with time the poignancy of my grief and resentment wore off and I saw you remorseful and dejected often gazing with a terrified look at vacancy or talking in dreams of horrible specters which had no existence except in your tormented mind, I began to pity you; then your constant kindness won my forgiveness and oh! Richard! now as that life which for your sake, I vainly wish prolonged is fleeting fast away, I know how fondly though all and above all I have loved you. How much I love you now."

The first rays of the morning sun shone upon a calm sea. They brought hope and cheerfulness to the despairing mariners but not a single one comforted the gloom of my heart. A breeze soon sprang up and we sped on our voyage. I cannot describe what I suffered while alone upon the ocean, for I was alone, though there were many human creatures around me. The bright blue waters sparkling in the sun beams, seemed to me red with blood and filled with horrible shapes. The sky ever wore a menacing frown, I often watched the dark clouds floating over it, and dreaded lest, yet, longed that a thunder bolt would suddenly burst from them and strike me dead. I had a hell within and saw no hope of Heaven without, while through the living-day and in my sleepless nights the spectres were ever present to my sight. Did I look for consolation to my wife, the silent reproach depicted upon her sad face gave a fresh sting to my tortures and was harder to bear than a tirade of invectives or a host of frowning phantoms.

At length we reached New York and my long dreary voyage was at an end. I led my wife ashore, she followed passive with averted eyes, but the shudder which thrilled her frame as her hand touched mine, was the bitterest of reproaches. I took a house in the most fashionable quarter and furnished it with all the splendor and luxury that money could buy. But alas, money could not buy happiness or retrieve lost affections. Moreover I was still tormented by doubts of my wife's faithfulness, while I could not too plainly perceive that she felt for me a kind of horror. I would have separated from her but a lurking fondness that rose superior to my suspicions, and a fear of her retaliation withheld me; besides the law could not have placed us further asunder than we really were.

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The Fireman's Journal

AND MILITARY GAZETTE.
MARCUS D. BUCKWICK, Editor.
SAN FRANCISCO
SATURDAY MORNING, AUGUST 22, 1857.

Answers to Correspondents.
Letters from "Howard," Yreka, "An Old Stocktonian," Stockton, "Sonoran," Sonora, also communications from "An Old Fireman," relative to the Register, and several other communications of interest to firemen generally will positively appear next week. Urgent business matters have prevented our proper attention to them this week.

To the Members of the San Francisco Fire Department.

We, the undersigned, a special Monumental and Cemetery Committee appointed by the Board of Delegates of this Fire Department, inform you that a book of subscription is now open at the office of H. A. COBB, Nos. 100 and 102 Montgomery street, for the purpose of receiving donations to aid in erecting the FIREMAN'S CEMETERY and erecting a permanent monument to our deceased brothers, who perished in discharging their duties as firemen.

H. A. COBB, Chairman,
E. M. SHAFIN,
E. P. BUCKLEY.

Fire Department.

SPECIAL NOTICE.—The Secretaries of the various Engine and Hook and Ladder Companies composing the Fire Department of this City, are hereby notified that their annual or voting rolls must be returned to the undersigned on or before the 5th day of September, 1857, in accordance with Article 11th, Section 9th, of the Laws governing the Fire Department.

Blank returns can be procured from

JACOB ECKEEL,
Secretary Fire Department.

Official.

Stockton, August 12th, 1857.

M. D. Buckwick, Esq., Editor Fireman's Journal:—

You will please announce to the firemen throughout the State, that the Executive Board of the State Agricultural Society, have decided to offer three prizes to the best playing engine belonging to and manned by regularly organized fire companies from the departments which they represent, present at the ensuing State Fair; being a silver trumpet each, to the engine of the 1st, 2d, and 3rd class, decided winner.

The trumpets are of great beauty and equal value, and worthy of possession on the part of the firemen.

The Executive Board have chosen as Judges of the affair, and who will make all laws governing the matter, the following named gentlemen:

F. E. R. Whitney, Chief Engineer Fire Department, San Francisco.

Frederick D. Kohler, ex-Chief Engineer Fire Department, San Francisco.

Marcus D. Buckwick, ex-Secretary Fire Department, San Francisco.

Joseph S. Friend, Chief Engineer, Fire Department, Sacramento.

A. W. Nightingill, Chief Engineer Fire Department, Marysville.

John Remhardt, Chief Engineer Fire Department, Stockton.

John Sedgwick, Chief Engineer Fire Department, Sonoma.

All companies intending to participate, are requested to notify the undersigned as speedily as possible, so that the proper arrangements may be made for their reception.

GEORGE H. SANDERSON,
Sec. Secretary State Agricultural Society.

Dangerous Building.

We call the attention of the firemen to the new safe construction of the new building now going up at No. 184 Washington street, North side, near Kearny street. It is of brick, two stories in height, the upper story resting on a wooden girder, which spans the whole front of the building. In the event of a fire, the locality would be a dangerous one to pipemen, and those around the scene.

Unsafe Buildings.

St. Mary's Hospital, Stockton street, East side, between Broadway and Vallejo streets.

Jefferson Hotel, Commercial street, opposite Union Theatre.

No. 210 and 212 Kearny street, East side, between Jackson and Pacific.

Buildings rear of 298 Stockton street, East side, opposite Virginia Block.

Brick building on Ohio street, West side, between Broadway and Pacific.

California Hotel, corner Dupont and Commercial streets.

Brick building No. 184 Washington street.

Quincy?—What fire Company in the department voted a man in as a member, and then voted him out again because he was from Boston?

The above is the substance of a communication we have received; and in answer, we have to say, we do not know the name of the company, never heard of the circumstance before, and if it be true, must contend that party lines, as far as nativity is concerned, are being drawn rather tight in the department. It is to be hoped that no such a circumstance occurred.

Secretaries.—We are requested by the Secretary of the Fire Department, to call the attention of the Secretaries, to the fact, that it is absolutely necessary for them to call upon him and procure blank returns, upon which their voting rolls must be returned to him. The time expires on the 5th of September, two weeks from this day, and it will therefore be seen, that it is but little time to operate in. Attend to your duties gentlemen and the Secretary of the department will attend to his.

John W. Cunniff.—The item in last week's Journal does injury to Mr. Cunniff. That gentleman is a true laborer for a time under the displeasure of Engine Co. 9, of which he was a member. But upon proper representations being made, the charge against Mr. Cunniff was withdrawn, and that gentleman admitted to full fellowship in the Company. We are informed that since the occurrence we speak of, Mr. Cunniff has resigned from Co. 9.

St. Francis H. & Co. No. 1.—This company are having a splendid hook, one made for the reception of their new line. It will be very properly constructed for the purpose intended, and will cost in the neighborhood of five hundred dollars.

Fires.

Since the last issue of the JOURNAL, the firemen have had considerable and arduous duty to perform.

On Saturday evening at 8 o'clock the Hall Bell sounded an alarm for the fourth district, the fire proceeding from the Metropolitan Theatre, on the west side of Montgomery street. We were standing in the immediate vicinity of the fire, and on reaching the lobby of the theatre found the passage way, in front of the inside entrance in flames, which were greatly increased by the bursting in of the outside doors creating a great draft, by parties who appeared to have but little idea of fireman's ship.

Before the alarm sounded Manhattan 3, was at the cistern, corner Washington and Montgomery street, and got to work with great rapidity, the hose leading through the lobby directly upon the fire and quickly followed by Pennsylvania 12, through the lobby and by Crescent 10, through the corporation yard gate on Jackson street. The remainder of the department followed in quick succession and got to work with great dispatch, and in twenty minutes the fire was under subjection, when several of the cisterns in the immediate vicinity gave out, and the Chief Engineer was compelled to shift the position of the apparatus; reducing the effective force on the fire and allowing the fire to re-kind, and gain such headway, as to baffie all efforts of the firemen and destroy the theatre. It being perceived that to save the Metropolitan was an impossibility, the attention of the firemen was directed to the safety of the surrounding buildings, and outside of the theatre there was not any injury done. The fire burned for more than four hours, and it was half past 2 o'clock before the watch line was ordered up.

The scene in and around the Theatre was grand in the extreme; on the outside, thousands of people gathered together, with upturned faces, watching the efforts of the firemen, the rushing to and fro of men, the steady stroke of the brakes, the long lines of black hose, like huge snakes waving up the ladders, the noise of the axes, as they were directed blows, descended on some obstacle in the way of the pipemen, the hoarse orders given and responded to, to what has never been done yet, save a theatre, all combined to make up a scene calculated to impress the mind.

On the inside the scene was grand. The whole interior of the Theatre was one mass of red flame, walking, as it were, from tier to tier, cornice to cornice. In the very centre of it a few brave and noble men, stood and battled with the element, with a earnestness of purpose we have never seen excelled. In the inside of the theatre, the pipemen of Nos. 3, 4, 6, and 12, won impregnable fame. The falling rafters, blazing scenery, and heat of the flames made no difference with them, they kept their ground till the last. To their energy may be ascribed the safety of Maguire's elegant Opera House.

To give some idea of the difficulties under which the firemen labored we give their different positions which they held at the fire.

Empire 1, first drafted at the cistern corner of Washington and Montgomery streets, supplying No. 8, on the fire. When the water gave out, No. 1, was sent to the cistern at the corner of Montgomery and Pacific, and supplied No. 2, on the fire. She was again removed, and took water from California 4, from the Broadway and Ohio street, cistern, supplying No. 8, No. 10, taking the water on the fire. No. 1, then took No. 5's water from the cistern corner Dupont and Washington and supplied No. 2, on the fire.

Manhattan 3, (first water on the fire), from the cistern corner Montgomery street, afterwards took No. 1's water as above stated, at times playing two and three streams.

Howard 3, first took No. 5's water from the plaza cistern, supplying No. 4 on the fire. This line was broken up, it being reported to the Chief the water had given out, and No. 3, proceeded to take No. 11's water, from the cistern at the corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets, and played on the fire, as above described. She afterwards performed watch duty drafting from the cistern at the corner of California and Montgomery streets, forcing water through 1350 feet of hose.

California 4, first had a stream upon the fire, receiving water from Nos. 3, and 4, as above set forth, afterwards she supplied No. 8, from the cistern corner Montgomery and Pacific, and then No. 1, from Broadway and Ohio streets. The breaking of her vacuum pipe prevented this engine from working with her usual effectiveness.

No. 5, drafted from the Plaza cistern supplying No. 3, until work came the water was out, when she was removed to the cistern corner of Washington and Dupont street, supplying No. 1. The breaking of No. 5's sections hindered her men very much.

No. 6, drafted from the Plaza cistern for more than three hours after work came that the water was exhausted and did splendid execution on the fire. When she ceased playing, she was drafting water 29 feet, 6 inches, from her box.

No. 7, first drafted from the cistern, corner Jackson and Kearny streets, supplying No. 14 on the fire. The engine No. 7 was used (old Monumental 6), becoming useless, the old "White Ghost," was procured from Mr. Ottinger's, in California street, and she continued to supply No. 14, on the fire from the cistern corner Pacific and Kearny St.

Pacific 8, first took No. 1's water on the fire, then No. 4's and then No. 10. The Pacific boy's worked well and by their efforts rendered most valuable assistance.

Vigilant 9, with their powerful and magnificent engine, received No. 11's water from the cistern corner Jackson and Kearny playing two elegant streams on the fire. She afterwards took No. 11's water from the corner of Montgomery and Commercial, playing on the fire through 500 feet of hose. Unfortunately as No. 9, was doing her duty nobly one of the pins, of the right brake became disarranged, and she was compelled to withdraw.

Crescent 10 first drafted from the cistern corner of Montgomery and Pacific street, leading on to the fire through 400 feet of hose. She was very prompt, afterwards she received No. 1's water still on the fire.

Columbia 11 first drafted at the corner of Kearny and Jackson, supplying No. 9, afterwards supplied No. 9, as above stated and when 9 broke down, still drafting from the cistern corner of Montgomery and Commercial streets supplied No. 3, on the fire and worked well.

Pennsylvania 12, was also very prompt and had second water on the fire, drafting from the cistern at the corner of Montgomery and Washington street, leading her stream through the lobby, when the cistern gave out she proceeded to the cistern at the corner of Montgomery and Commercial street, and played through 900 feet of hose on the fire, performing admirably well ordered up.

Young America 13, did not come into the city. The fire, throughout its continuance being supplied by No. 7.

The Hook and Ladder Companies, several, were present. Sonoma first on the ground and next came the Hook and Ladder Companies, which is unaccountably delayed on this case.

The whole loss by this fire will amount to \$60,000. Much of the scenery, the whole of the stage, a portion of the orchestra and orchestra,

more than we have ever before seen preserved in any theatre which was destroyed by fire, and we have seen seven destroyed.

At the same hour of the breaking out of the fire at the Metropolitan, Musical Hall was accidentally discovered to be on fire by the person who attends the bar in the upper story of the building, and by him extinguished. A few minutes delay would have endangered the safety of the whole city.

An alarm of fire was sounded on Tuesday afternoon by the Monumental bell; the fire proceeding from some rags in a frame building on Hallock street. No damage. Force of the Department out. No. 3 stretched for service, and water through her hose.

On Wednesday morning 8 o'clock, still alarm.—Fire in entry of frame building on Hallock street near Leidesdorff. Act of incendiary. Damage slight. Howard 3, on the ground, ready for service.

Same morning, same hour, frame building on West side Kearny street, between Pine and Bush. Act of incendiary. Fire set in entry. No alarm. Extinguished with buckets of water.

Thursday morning, 2 o'clock. Barn of E. W. Burr, near the Lagoon. Alarm from Monumental bell, taken up in about eight minutes afterwards by the Hall bell. The whole Department out. No. 9, the only engine on the ground, and did good service in protecting the surrounding property. Chief Engineer Whitney, and Assistant Engineers Van Orden and Smith, on the ground. Fire caused by incendiary.

Board of Delegates.

An adjourned stated meeting of the Board of Delegates, was held at their chambers City Hall, on Wednesday evening August 19th, 1857.

President F. Mahony in the chair.

The roll being called, the following gentlemen answered to their names:

Messrs. Cotter, Babcock, Smith, Buckingham, Otter, Hoffmann, Moore, Chapin, Gould, Bidon, Johnson, Tennant, Whalen, Fitzgibbon, Edgar, Ezekiel, Law, President Mahony.

Mr. Charles Choeborough, was admitted a Delegate from Pacific Engine Co. No. 8, vice C. Walsh resigned.

Mr. R. F. Pickett, was admitted a Delegate from Vigilant No. 9, vice W. M. Bovee resigned.

On motion, the fines against Messrs. Chapin, and Fitzgibbon were remitted.

Messrs. Buckingham and Pickett, were then sworn by the President in conformity to the Laws governing the Department.

Mr. Hoffmann moved, that the Board adjourn until Monday evening next at 8 o'clock which upon a division vote was lost: Ayes 4, nays 11.

Mr. Cutter moved, that the report of the Judiciary Committee be laid over until the next monthly meeting.

Mr. Hoffmann, offered an amendment, that it be till the next meeting which Mr. Cutter accepted, and the motion was adopted.

Finance Committee, Mr. Cotter moved that the report of the same be laid over until the next meeting. Adopted.

Committee on Rules—no report.

Committee on Cemetery, asked for and was granted further time.

Committee on Register, granted further time.

Committee on Washington Monument—Mr. Bidon chairman reported, that he had taken some steps to find out the expense of procuring and forwarding a block of quartz, and it would be about fifty dollars, properly inscribed with the names of the officers of the Board, &c., and moved the adoption of the report.

Mr. Buckingham, said he did not think it could be more of a block of quartz for fifty dollars.

Mr. Bidon stated, that it would cost nothing to have it prepared and forwarded to Washington, and would be when finished very beautiful.

Mr. Cutter moved, that the Committee be granted further time. Adopted.

Election of Bell Ringer.

Mr. Cutter moved, that the election of a Bell Ringer be deferred until next regular meeting.

The question being taken on Mr. Cutter's motion was on a division vote adopted. Ayes 11, nays 9.

Mr. Moore moved, that the Board adjourn on a division vote adopted. Ayes 12, nays 8.

The Board then adjourned.

CISTERNS.—The cisterns at the corners of Kearny and Pine, California, Commercial and Washington streets on Montgomery, and the Plaza cistern, have been filled from the well of the Lion Company Brewery on Pine street. At the corner of Washington and Jackson, on Dupont street, from Esplanade Spring Valley Works. The cistern at the corner of Montgomery and Pacific, by the members of Crescent Engine Company No. 10, from the water works of Mr. Coffin, on Broadway near Dupont street. The cistern on Broadway opposite Ohio street, by water carts: all paid for by private subscription, obtained through the unremitted exertions of the Chief and his Assistant Engineers; not the slightest assistance, except in "talk," being received from the Board of Supervisors.

CRESCENT ENGINE CO. NO. 10.—This efficient and well organized Fire Company, are to have a benefit at the American theatre on Tuesday evening next, upon which occasion Mrs. Julia Dean Hayes, has, with her usual kindness, volunteered her valuable services. An attractive bill of performances will be presented, and we sincerely hope to see an over-drawing house. Crescent Company is as prompt and efficient a branch of the Fire Department, as any connected with the organization, and laboring under the disadvantages the members have in being compelled to work an almost worthless apparatus, they have done nobly and are entitled to the best support of an appreciative public.

FUNERAL.—The funeral of Mr. J. G. Murphy, a member of Young America Engine Company No. 13, who died on Sunday last, of consumption, took place on Monday. The remains of Mr. M. were escorted to the Mission Church by a large number of 13's company, and delegations from Nos. 1, 5, 8 and 9. Assistant Engineer Van Orden was also present. Mr. M. was buried in the Mission Church Yard. The funeral ceremonies were very impressive.

IN PROGRESS.—The construction of the cistern at the corner of Folson and Second streets, under the superintendence of Chief Engineer Whitney. It will be completed in a days, and will be the fourth one of the kind in the city. It will be of sufficient capacity to contain 50,000 gallons of water. By the way, what is it that attracts all the fine looking men in the Department to that locality now-days?

REPAIRS HOSE CO.—The members of this company contemplating having their present hose carriage rebuilt. We think it preferable to sell it, and purchase a new one. The company would be much better satisfied with such an arrangement.

The Charitable Fund.

The Charitable Fund, is now in a very flourishing condition. The total amount to its credit is \$42,600. Mr. Henry Haight is present and former Treasurer, took possession of the fund some five months ago, since which time all the interest and back interest due the fund, amounting to \$3,500 has been collected and loaned out. The total expenses of the fund, for the last six months, or since it was incorporated, amounts to \$38,50; and during the same time not one single dollar has been paid out for relief.

The Trustees have provided themselves with a very handsome seal, cut by T. C. Boyd, engraver of this city. It is about the size of the department seal. In the centre of it is a monument, on either side is a child, in the act of decorating the monument with flowers, lying on the ground is a broken torch. Around the seal are the words "San Francisco Fire Department Charitable Fund."

The Trustees of the Charitable Fund, are Messrs. Joseph C. Palmer, Wm McKibbin, Theodore Payne, E. L. Sullivan, Henry Haight. To the latter gentleman the firemen are under the most weighty obligations for the care he has evinced in the affairs of the fund, and the zeal he has at all times displayed in enhancing its value. To his watchfulness and care much of its prosperity may be attributed.

Proceedings of the Board of Delegates of the Marysville Fire Department.

MARYSVILLE, August 11th, 1857.

Regular monthly meeting of the Board. President Bayley in the Chair.

Present, Nightingill, Stokes, Bayley, Simpkins, Bender, Schuchert, Myers, Barnett, McMaister, Hochstadter, Watson, McDonald.

Absent—Chandler, Coyle, Elston, Seymour, Dickey, Gorham, Guyant, Glatson and Hattman.

Resolved, That E. M. Pierson and C. G. Harding appeared with credentials, as Delegates from Warren Engine Co. No. 4, in place of H. Leland and J. S. Osgood, resigned. On motion, they took their seats.

Minutes of the last regular meeting read and approved.

The committee on the Firemen's Cemetery Fund asked for further time. Granted.

The committee appointed to investigate the finances of the Charitable Fund requested further time. Granted.

Communications from Yuba Engine Co., Yuba Hose Co., and Warren Engine Co. received and placed on file.

Mr. Wm. Hart was confirmed as a member of Yuba Engine Co. from the time he signed the Constitution, after considerable discussion, carried.

The Board then formed themselves into a Committee of the Whole, to take into consideration the action of the Committee on Fire and Water, in regard to the recommendations of the Chief Engineer, as per report. After an animated debate, H. M. Hueston presented the following resolution, which was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That a Committee of Three be appointed by the Chair to wait on said Committee on Fire and Water, and ascertain their views in regard to the recommendations of said Chief Engineer.

The Chair appointed Messrs. Stokes, Hueston and Barnett on Committee.

Resolution by Mr. Thomas McMaster, that this Board of Delegates do adjourn till the next regular meeting, on motion was laid over for one month.

The following persons were confirmed as firemen, viz:

C. Kinner, attached to Yuba Engine No. 2.
M. Markham, Yuba Hose Co.
Ralph Leland and George Buxton, Warren Engine Co. No. 4.

The resignation of G. W. Murray, attached to Yuba Engine Co. received.

On motion, Board adjourned.

WM. ROBINSON, Sec'y.

DIPLOMA CERTIFICATES.—Up to the present time there have issued to the Fire Department, eight hundred Diploma Certificates as follows:

Empire Engine Company No. 1	39
Manhattan " "	40
Howard " "	40
California " "	51
Knickerbocker Engine Company No. 3	37
Monumental " "	37
Volunteer " "	65
Pacific " "	34
Vigilant " "	40
Crescent " "	40
Columbian " "	41
Pennsylvania " "	42
Young America " "	40
St. Francis H. & L. Company No. 1	23
Lafayette " "	43
Sansome " "	53
Total	800

VISITORS.—We have received visits during the week from P. Holland, Assistant Engineer Sacramento Fire Department, and Capt. P. F. O'Brien of Neptune Hose Co. No. 1, of Sacramento. S. D. Baldwin ex-Assistant Engineer of the Stockton Fire Department, and J. H. Keeler of Eureka Engine Co. No. 2, of that City. Jacob Levy Esq., Foreman of Salamander H. & L. Company of Marysville, and F. S. Barre of the Placerville Fire Department. B. M. Henry, Foreman of Washington Hose Company No. 3, of Sonoma, and H. K. White, Foreman of Skyhook Hook and Ladder Company of Yreka. Their visits were truly welcome.

175 CLAY STREET.—The owners and builders of the structure going up at No. 175 Clay street, are highly culpable for the unprotected stairway which they leave the excavation in front of the building. No barriers are erected, and no lights hoisted to show the passer by, the danger which threatens him. In returning from an alarm of fire, we came very near injuring ourselves, by stumbling into the hole spoken of, and if we had, that building when finished should have been ours.

SALERO.—Mr. Theodore Payne, a prominent member of the Fire Department, a member of Empire Engine Co. No. 1, and one of the trustees of the Charitable Fund, sailed on the steamer "Sonora," for the Atlantic States. Mr. P. will be absent several months, returning with his family, permanently to settle here.

KNICKERBOCKER 3.—The engine of this company, has been out of service several days during the week. Her sections were badly damaged at the Metropolitan fire by the party dropping them in the cistern taking too short a turn. No. 5 is now in active duty.

PACIFIC 8.—This company have sent to the States for a "Jefferson" engine, and not one of "Smith's" build. She is to be 84 inch cylinder, mahogany box, with but few ornaments. She will cost landed here about \$3,000, and is to come out across the Intimacy.

CALIFORNIA 4. The engine of this company has been out of service since the Metropolitan Theatre fire, having broken her vacuum pipe at the bed plate. She is now in serviceable condition again.

DECISION.—Monumental Engine Company No. 6, decided at their meeting on Tuesday evening last, to visit Stockton during the State Fair.

MARYVILLE. An adjourned meeting of California 4, will be held on Monday evening next.

PROTECTION 2.—We are informed that Protection Engine Company No. 2, of Sacramento, will be present at the State Fair in Stockton.

ADVERTISED.—During the months of June, July and August, there were one hundred and fourteen members admitted into the Fire Department.

A Card.

At a meeting of the members of Volunteer Engine Company No. 7, on Thursday evening, Michael Cohen, Esq., presented the company with a splendid silver trumpet, beautifully embossed and engraved.

On motion, Messrs. Bella, Reed, and Branda, were appointed a committee to convey the thanks of the company to Mr. Cohen.

SAN FRANCISCO August 21st, 1857.
Michael Cohen, Esq., Dear Sir: On behalf of the members of Volunteer Engine Company No. 7, we take pleasure in thanking you for the beautiful gift you presented them on Thursday last. We hundred is a token of our appreciation of the company, and trust that in the hands of our fireman it may ever be used to issue those commands which will urge us on to triumph over the enemy it is our object to subdue.

We have the honor to be your old servants,
J. S. ELLIS,
GEO. REED,
A. F. BRANDA.

GOON WEEK.—The Marysville Inquirer of August 14th, says: The Mutual Engine having undergone thorough renovation and repair, was brought out on Wednesday evening and tried. She threw two streams over the Western House flagstaff, and also threw a stream to a point one hundred and ninety-five feet distant from the pipe. She is a very powerful machine, and is manned by a fine body of men.

VIGILANT 9.—The "Vigilante" engine was damaged at the Metropolitan fire. Her injuries have been repaired, and as ever, she is prompt for duty.

AS WE PREDICTED.—Mr. C. Walsh, has resigned from the Board of Delegates. Old stager as he is, Cornell, tired in one meeting.

NEW ADVERTISEMENTS.

Northern Assurance Company

Established in 1836.

INCORPORATED BY ACT OF PARLIAMENT.

CAPITAL, £1,350,760.

HEAD OFFICES:—Aberdeen—3, King street. Glasgow—20 St. Andrew's.

Dunfries—42 Waring street. Dundee—10, St. Andrew's. Glasgow—19 St. Vincent.

THE 30th ANNUAL MEETING OF THIS COMPANY was held on the 12th inst., when the following results of the business for the year ending the 31st of December last, were submitted to the proprietors and policy holders:

Premiums for the year	£91,206 3 6
After which payment of all losses and expenses, and provision for all outstanding claims, left the credit of profit and balance of	£14,572 15 6
Premiums of 514 new Policies issued during the year	£28,112 1 11
Renewal Premiums and Interest	£35,408 7 11
Total revenue for the year	£207,622 13 8
Claims during the year	£114,966 10 0
Number of Policies current, 3,686 for capital, sums amounting to	£1,832,708 4 9
Amount of accumulated funds	£242,535 2 2
Revenue from all sources	£164,497 11 1

At the same time the directors have recommended that the shareholders for the year ending the 31st of December last, be entitled to a dividend of 7 1/2 per cent, free of income tax, the same was adopted accordingly.

PROGRESS OF THE COMPANY DURING THE PAST FIVE YEARS.

Revenue from May 1, 1853	Life Department	Fire Department
Revenue from May 1, 1853	£24,133 13 9	£2,357 4 4
Revenue from May 1, 1854	£29,358 12 4	£2,358 12 4
Revenue from May 1, 1855	£29,358 12 4	£2,358 12 4
Revenue from May 1, 1856	£29,358 12 4	£2,358 1

